

Moderation in All Things?

A Look at Occupations Requiring Moderate-Term On-the-Job Training

When it comes to training, do moderate-term on-the-job training occupations require not too much training, not too little training, but just the right amount? Well, that's a value judgment best avoided in this article. However, for many workers, jobs in the moderate-term OJT (on-the-job training) category can offer good career opportunities without a huge training commitment. In addition, they can furnish a springboard to higher-level supervisory positions.

For purposes of this article, we're using definitions provided the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

BLS classifies moderate-term OJT occupations as jobs where the skills needed for a worker to become fully qualified can be acquired during 1 to 12 months of combined on-the-job experience and informal training.

You can receive formal training for a number of the occupations in this category, and licensing may even require that type of instruction. However, training codes are assigned based on how the majority of individuals nationwide in this profession received their training. For the most part, the preponderance of training for these positions occurs on the job. Of course, you'll be much more attractive to a prospective employer if you've had formal training, and in a tight labor market, many employers may demand that training.

The Most Jobs

What are some of the largest Utah occupations in this moderate OJT category? Customer service representatives top the list and are

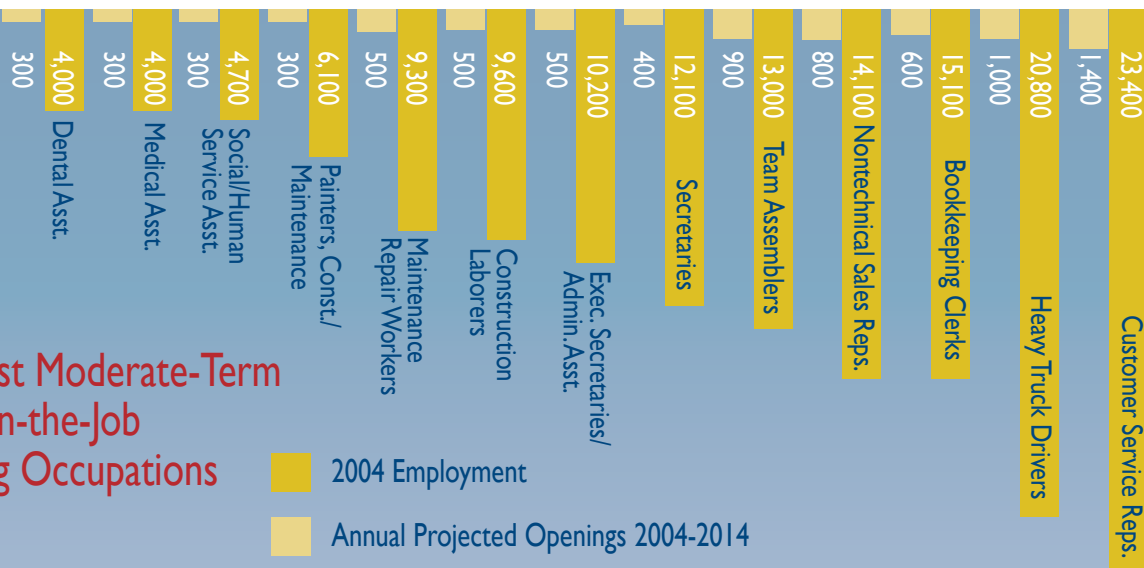
For more information see:

*<http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/occi.html>
and <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/trendlines/marapr08/moderatetermojt.xls>*



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

Utah Largest Moderate-Term On-the-Job Training Occupations



joined by other “administrative support” occupations—secretaries, bookkeeping/accounting clerks, and executive secretaries/administrative assistants. A number of occupations typically considered “blue-collar” can also be found here—heavy truck drivers, team assemblers (manufacturing), construction laborers, maintenance/repair workers, and painters. Sales representatives and medical and dental assistants round out the group. Not surprisingly, these occupations are also projected to show the largest number of job openings in the future.

The Best Pay

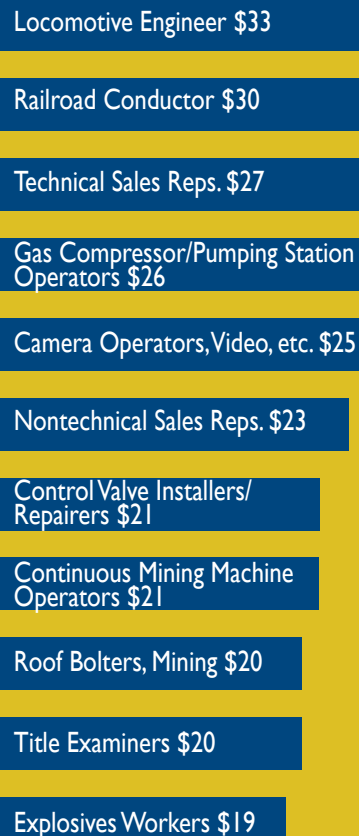
Which moderate-term OJT occupations offer the best pay in Utah? Most of the jobs with highest wages are concentrated in the railroad and mining occupations. However, sales representatives, camera operators, and title examiners also appear in the top ranks.

The Top Career Opportunities

Just because a career pays well, doesn’t make it a strong career contender. The Utah Department of Workforce Services ranks occupations based on the number of projected new openings, the rate of projected employment growth and wages, to delineate those occupations that seem to offer the best career opportunities in the future. Using this system, the following moderate OJT occupations receive a “five star” rating:

- Cement Masons/Concrete Finishers
- Correctional Officers/Jailers
- Drywall/Ceiling Tile Installers
- Executive Secretaries/Administrative Assistants
- Highway Maintenance Workers Operating Engineers
- Inspectors/Testers/Sorters
- Maintenance/Repair Workers
- Payroll/Timekeeping Clerks
- Roofers
- Sales Representatives, Technical
- Sales Representatives, Nontechnical
- Truck Drivers, Heavy

Utah High-Paying Moderate On-the-Job Training Occupations by Hourly Wage



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services